

PATENT APPLN. NO. 10/590,442  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning in line 17 on page 13 (paragraph [0085] of US 2008/0166511 A1, the publication of the present application) with the following amended paragraph:

These curing agents can be used in combination with an appropriate curing accelerator to enhance their curing activity. For example, dicyandiamide is suitably used in combination with, as a curing accelerator, a urea derivative, such as 3-phenyl-1,1-dimethylurea, 3-(3,4-dichlorophenyl)-1,1-dimethylurea (DCMU), 3-(3-chloro-4-methylphenyl)-1,1-dimethylurea or 2,4-bis(3,3-dimethylureido)toluene, or an imidazole derivative. If dicyandiamide alone is used, curing requires a temperature as high as about 170 to 180°C, while if dicyandiamide is used together with any of curing accelerators described above, curing can be carried out at a temperature of about 80 to 150°C. The combination of dicyandiamide with a compound that contains two or more urea bonds per molecule is particularly preferable. Of the compounds that contain two or more urea bonds per molecule, ~~1,1'-4(methyl-m-phenylene)bis(3,3-dimethylurea)~~ 1,1'-(4-methyl-m-phenylene)bis(3,3-dimethylurea) or 4,4'-methylene

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bis(phenyldimethylurea) is preferable. Use of such a compound makes it possible to achieve curing at 150 to 160°C for about 2 to 10 minutes. Besides, it improves flame retardance greatly when the cured resin is molded into thin panels, and thus, such a curing accelerator is preferably used for applications such as electrical/electronic materials.

Please replace the paragraph beginning in line 9 on page 36 (paragraph [0177] of US 2008/0166511 A1) with the following amended paragraph:

DCMU-99 (3,4-dichlorophenyl-1,1-dimethylurea, manufactured by HODOGAYA CHEMICAL CO., LTD.), "OMICURE" (registered trademark) 24 (~~2,4-toluenebis(dimethylurea)~~ 1,1'-(4-methyl-m-phenylene)bis(3,3-dimethylurea), manufactured by PTI Japan Co.,), "OMICURE" (registered trademark) 52 (4,4-methylenebisbis(phenyldimethylurea), manufactured by PTI Japan Co.,), 2E4MZ (2-ethyl-4-methylimidazole, manufactured by SHIKOKU CHEMICALS CORPORATION).